

Selectboard Meeting
January 23, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:00pm

Present: Noreen Suriner, Chair; Alan Vint, Clerk; Mitch Feldmesser
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant

Warrants were approved and signed; Expenses: \$14,172.21; Payroll:
\$14,732.81

Minutes were reviewed; Alan motioned to approve, Mitch 2nd; vote 2-0 with
Noreen abstaining as she did not attend the meeting.

Eleanor Doyle representing Highland Grange was present and requested use
of the Town Hall auditorium and kitchen for their Pancake Breakfast. She
had completed the use request. Noreen motioned to allow the use, Alan 2nd;
vote was 3-0 to allow.

Cheryl and Kathleen Harper asked to use the Town Hall auditorium for
Zumba classes; it would be used for 1 hour on dates to be determined so not
to conflict with other activities that have already been scheduled. They are
both certified to teach and provided copies of their certification and a
certificate of liability insurance. This would be a “for profit” use as they
would charge \$5 per person with \$1 surcharge to be paid for the hall use.
This is the same fee arrangement they have in Huntington for the use of
Stanton Hall. Cheryl explained that Russell does not charge for the use as
the fee is paid by a grant. She will look into that for Middlefield. They
completed the use request and it was approved on a 3-0 vote.

Skip Savery, highway superintendent, met with the Board and gave an
update on the past weeks activities including a problem he had with the
diesel fuel gelling causing the grader and large truck both to stall. He had to
purchase kerosene to cut the fuel and make it usable. Noreen also mentioned
she had learned that a member of the Hatfield Selectboard is willing to come
and speak to the Board and Skip about developing a 5 year plan for the
roads. This would give Middlefield a “leg up” on future grant applications.

Alan said as part of the Green Grant, the Town will be receiving a Big Belly
Solar Compactor and a location has to be determined as to where to put it.

This is a unit that will compact cans and plastic on one side and paper products on the other. A site will be determined at a later date.

Marge Batorski, Town Clerk, advised the Board the Town Caucus will be held on March 28th from 4-8pm and names must be submitted for the ballot by 5pm on March 14th. She then went through the list of positions that will be on the ballot.

An anonymous letter was received regarding the position of Assistant Town Clerk and that any payment made for that position should come from the Clerk's budget. There has been no funding allocated for that position and it is to be an article for the Special Town Meeting.

Noreen told the Board they did not get the District Incentive Grant (DIG) and Franklin COG has invited them to participate in their grant but it was suggested that Middlefield does not join in that venture.

Letters are to be sent to all departments, boards and committees and request their reports for the annual Town Report as well as budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year.

It was requested that the Cemetery Committee be put on a future agenda to discuss the costs of plots, grave openings and perpetual care as well as possible expansion of the cemeteries.

Old business issues that were not completed during the year were discussed next and a list will be compiled and presented at the next Board meeting.

Joe Kearns was in attendance and noted Middlefield needs to appoint a representative to the Hilltown CDC. Another appointment that is needed in town is that of a Dog Officer.

Jackie Duda, Health Agent, had sent a number of letters to various property owners citing deficiencies and she will meet with the Board in the future to review her actions. She, also, had sent a letter to a septic pumping business whose check was returned for insufficient funds last year. This year's check was processed with no problems but she wants to apply it to last year's outstanding balance. After discussion, Noreen motioned to deny this year's permit, apply the payment to a portion of the past due balance pending full payment of the past due. Alan 2nd and the vote was 3-0.

A general discussion was held regarding Harry Pease Road and the possibility of doing some surveys in the area with no decisions reached.

Noreen motioned to adjourn the meeting, Alan 2nd, vote was 3-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes

Noreen Suriner, Chair

Alan Vint, Clerk

Mitch Feldmesser